



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Phone: (703) 351-7676

3 April 1979

Mr. W. Walton Crouch
Editor
Aurora Beacon-News (Ill.)
Copley Press, Inc.
101 South River Street
Aurora, Illinois 60506

Dear Mr. Crouch:

We have just read your recent editorial, OURS--U.S. Needs Ears More than Ever, of 3 March 1979. We appreciate your interest in intelligence and thought you might like to know that my office is available to provide information about the Intelligence Community and the CIA.

Quite often the facts and background data we provide helps clarify misconceptions and avoids misstatements of facts. We respond, for example, to some 15 to 20 queries daily from media representatives who wish to check the accuracy of their stories or, who have questions about our activities. We would be pleased to similarly assist you in the future.

The Public Affairs Office also disseminates some 150 unclassified research reports annually to the media and the public concerning subjects of general interest. In addition, we frequently provide unclassified background briefings to newsmen on substantive topics at their request. When possible we are pleased to host media representatives at the Agency for get-acquainted sessions.

We would welcome the opportunity to provide you such services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Herbert E. Hetu".

Herbert E. Hetu
Director of Public Affairs

HEH:car